



JOSEPH R. BIDEN, III  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
820 NORTH FRENCH STREET  
WILMINGTON, DELAWARE 19801

CONTACT JASON MILLER  
PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER  
PHONE (302) 577-8949  
CELL (302) 893-8939  
Jason.Miller@state.de.us

## **Media Release**

March 18, 2010

### **Biden secures closure of Harrington nuisance property**

**Wilmington, DE** – For the residents of Harrington, 1 New Street has been the site of constant drug and weapons activity over a period of several years. During the past three years, the Harrington Police Department has received at least 58 complaints of illegal activity occurring on the site, including numerous reports of illegal drug transactions in an open air drug market. Since 2005, four search warrants were executed on the property as a result of drug and weapons investigations by police. Searches and undercover purchases yielded drugs, weapons, and money used in the illegal transactions.

That all changed today, when Deputy Attorney General Dan Logan concluded a nuisance abatement action against the property. Since 2007, the Attorney General's office has been utilizing Delaware's Drug Nuisance and Social Vices Abatement Act to close down properties associated with illegal drug sales. Today, at the request of the Delaware Department of Justice, Kent County Superior Court President Judge James T. Vaughn, Jr. ordered that the Harrington property be closed to all but a limited number of specific individuals who currently live on-site. Those allowed to remain on the premises were ordered to comply with the abatement order and to report any suspected future drug activity to police.

In addition to the work done by Deputy Attorney General Logan, Attorney General Biden singled out the work of the Harrington Police Department for its active involvement in the investigation and the enforcement action. Biden said, "Just as we do in criminal prosecutions, the Department of Justice will continue to use every statute and remedy at our disposal, including the Nuisance Abatement Act, to better Delaware's communities by removing drug dealing and other crime from our neighborhoods."

###